Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

Midwest Region

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SQUAW CREEK REFUGE KICKING OFF

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK

Mound City, Missouri - - Celebrate Family Fun Day at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge with a day of outdoor family activities. The fun filled day of activities are a celebration of National Wildlife Refuge Week, October 13 to 20. This year's theme is "Spread Your Wings on a National Wildlife Refuge". Some activities included this year are: 5K run walk, canoeing wetlands, demonstrations of trapping and hunting techniques, birding hikes, habitat programs, shooting with rifles and bows, and much more. The family day booths and activities will begin at 10:00AM and run until 3:00 PM. Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge is located 5 miles south of Mound City, Missouri traveling from Interstate-29 to Exit 79 then on Highway 159 South.

The Friends of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge are hosting the **Dusty Dash 5K Run/Walk** on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>October 13</u> with registration at 8:00 AM and the run starting at 9:00AM. The registration is being held in the refuge auto tour parking lot at <u>8:00 A.M.</u> and the <u>run starts at 9:00 A.M.</u> Entry contribution of adult \$15, child \$10, family \$35, and dog \$1 (pets must be on a leash). Please note children 5 and under (in a stroller) are free. Checks must be made payable to Friends of Squaw Creek during race day. Entry fee contributions are non-refundable. Entry fee contributions support Friends of Squaw Creek projects for educational resource materials utilized in school programs and visitor services programs on the refuge.

(More)

The 5K Run/Walk was first held in 1999 and has become an annual event as part of National Wildlife Refuge Week. The event will take place on a portion of the ten mile auto tour route giving you a chance to "Spread Your Wings on a National Wildlife Refuge". For more information call Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge at (660) 442-3187 or see the refuge website http://www.fws.gov/refuge/squaw_creek/.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 150-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System which encompasses more than 550 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 63 fishery resource offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitats such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

For further information about programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Great Lakes-Big Rivers Region, please visit the regional website at: http://www.midwest.fws.gov or the national at http://www.fws.gov.

The Squaw Creek Refuge website can be accessed at http://www.fws.gov/refuge/squaw_creek/.

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